

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following amended paragraph 0012 for the original paragraph 0012 presently in the application.

[0012] The organic sulfonic acid concentration is effective over a wide range depending, upon the contact time and temperature and subsequent drying temperature. For example, a 100% acid solution contacted briefly then rinsed free of acid with little or no drying provides a similar result as a 20% acid solution contact without rinsing and dried at elevated temperature. In general, the higher the acid concentration, the longer its contact time, the hotter its contact temperature, and the hotter its drying time, the more permeable is the resultant polyamide composite membrane. Typically the membrane treatment solution is from about 10 to about 30 volume percent acid when elevated temperature drying is performed without removing the acid residue residual from the membrane. Alternatively, greater than about 50% acid concentration is typically used if rinsing is performed prior to drying the membrane. Other solvents besides water may advantageously be used, particularly those which swell the polyamide layer and/or decrease the surface tension of the treatment solution. It is believed that this behavior encourages penetration of the acid into the polyamide and enhances the treatment effect. Care should be taken, however, that such solvents do not adversely affect the underlying porous support or interfere with the action of the acid on the polyamide layer.

IN THE CLAIMS /

Please cancel Claims 22 and 24.

Please substitute the following amended claims for the corresponding claims presently in the application:

15. A composite membrane useful for reverse osmosis or nanofiltration
2 comprising: